Capsule Summary SM-724 Trossbach House Dameron Vicinity Private

c. 1910

Following an agricultural rebuilding trend that occurred in St. Mary's County during the early twentieth century, the Trossbach House was constructed circa 1910. The two story frame house with a distinctive cross gable is surrounded by flat cultivated fields and accompanied by a number of agricultural buildings that include tobacco barns, cattle barn, and cribs. The relationships between all of these buildings with the landscape adequately recalls the increased interest in diversifying agricultural products during the period thus retaining a moderate to high level of historical integrity. The house as well as the agricultural outbuildings deserve further documentation.

Inventory No. SM-724

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

| 1. Name of F | Property | (indicate preferred na | me) | | |
|--|--|--|---|--------------------|---------------------|
| historic | | | | | |
| other | Trossbach Hous | se | | | |
| 2. Location | | | | | _ |
| street and number | 18224 Trossbac | h Road | | - | not for publication |
| city, town | Dameron | | | 2 | vicinity |
| county | St. Mary's | | | | |
| 3. Owner of | Property | (give names and mailing a | addresses of all | owners) | |
| name | Wilma Jane and | Caroline Anne Trossbach | | | |
| street and number | 18224 Trossbac | h Road | | telephone | N/a |
| city, town | Dameron | ; | state Md | zip code | 20628 |
| 4. Location | of Legal D | escription | | | |
| courthouse, registry | y of deeds, etc. | St. Mary's County Courthouse | ; | tax map and parcel | TM-64, P-26 |
| city, town | Leonardtown | | | liber MRB 260 | folio 421 |
| Contri Deterr Deterr Recor | buting Resource i mined Eligible for mined Ineligible fo ded by HABS/HA | rt or Research Report at MHT | - | | |
| 6. Classifica | ition | | | | |
| Categorydistrict _x_building(s)structuresiteobject | Ownershippublicprivateboth | Current Function x agriculture commerce/trade defense x domestic education funerary government health care industry | landscape recreation religion social transporta work in pr unknown vacant/no other: | t in use Number o | |

| 7. Description | | Inventory No. SM-724 |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Condition | | |
| excellent <u>x</u> good fair | deteriorated ruins altered | |

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Positioned in the middle of a broad flat plain of cultivated fields stands the Trossbach House. Located at the northern terminus of Trossbach Road near Dameron, Maryland, the house is approached via a dirt farm road that proceeds east to a number of agricultural buildings and then curving northward again to the main house. The house is bounded by a number of mature trees as well as a non-contributing metal shed or workshop situated just north of the house. The surveyor was previously denied access to the property, so photography and observations were taken from the distant public road.

The house itself is a two-story frame house probably erected circa 1910. The primary or south elevation is entered through a centrally located door and is fenestrated by a number of what appear one-over-one, double-hung sash windows. All of these bays are sheltered by a wrap-around shed roof porch that is embellished with a balustrade. The balustrade is interrupted only by the main entrance on the south and west. The second floor of the south elevation is pierced by three symmetrically placed windows of similar sash. The middle window is emphasized by a cross gable that interrupts the raised-seam metal gable roof.

A number of agricultural outbuildings are located on the property. These include at least two tobacco barns, a gambrel roofed dairy/cattle/hay barn, and two cribs. Some are located well to the northeast of the house in the fields, while the others are situated astride the main drive. These buildings as well as the main house deserve further recordation.

| 8. Signific | cance | | | Inventory No. SM-724 |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| Period | Areas of Significance | Check and ju | stify below | |
| 1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899 <u>x</u> 1900-1999 2000- | x agriculture archeology x architecture art commerce communications community planning conservation | economics education engineering entertainment/ recreation ethnic heritage exploration/ settlement | health/medicine industry invention landscape architecture law literature mantime history military | performing arts philosophy politics/government =_ religion science social history transportation other: |
| Specific dates | | | Architect/Builder | |
| Construction of | lates | | | |
| Evaluation for: | | | | |
| | _ National Register | Ma | aryland Register | xnot evaluated |

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Following an agricultural rebuilding trend that occurred in St. Mary's County during the early twentieth century, the Trossbach House was constructed circa 1910. The two story frame house with a distinctive cross gable is surrounded by flat cultivated fields and accompanied by a number of agricultural buildings that include tobacco barns, cattle barn, and cribs. The relationships between all of these buildings with the landscape adequately recalls the increased interest in diversifying agricultural products during the period thus retaining a moderate to high level of historical integrity. The house as well as the agricultural outbuildings deserve further documentation.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. SM-724

Hammett, Regina Combs. History of St. Mary's County, Maryland: 1634-1990. Ridge, Md: Self-published, 1994.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property
Acreage of historical setting
Quadrangle name

85.86 acres
85.86 acres
Quadrangle name
Quadrangle scale: 1:24 000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is rimmed by woodlands that mark the location of a brackish marsh to the north, east and south, and a steep wooded ridge to the west. The property is more specifically described in the St. Mary's County Land Records Liber MRB 260, Folio 421.

11. Form Prepared by

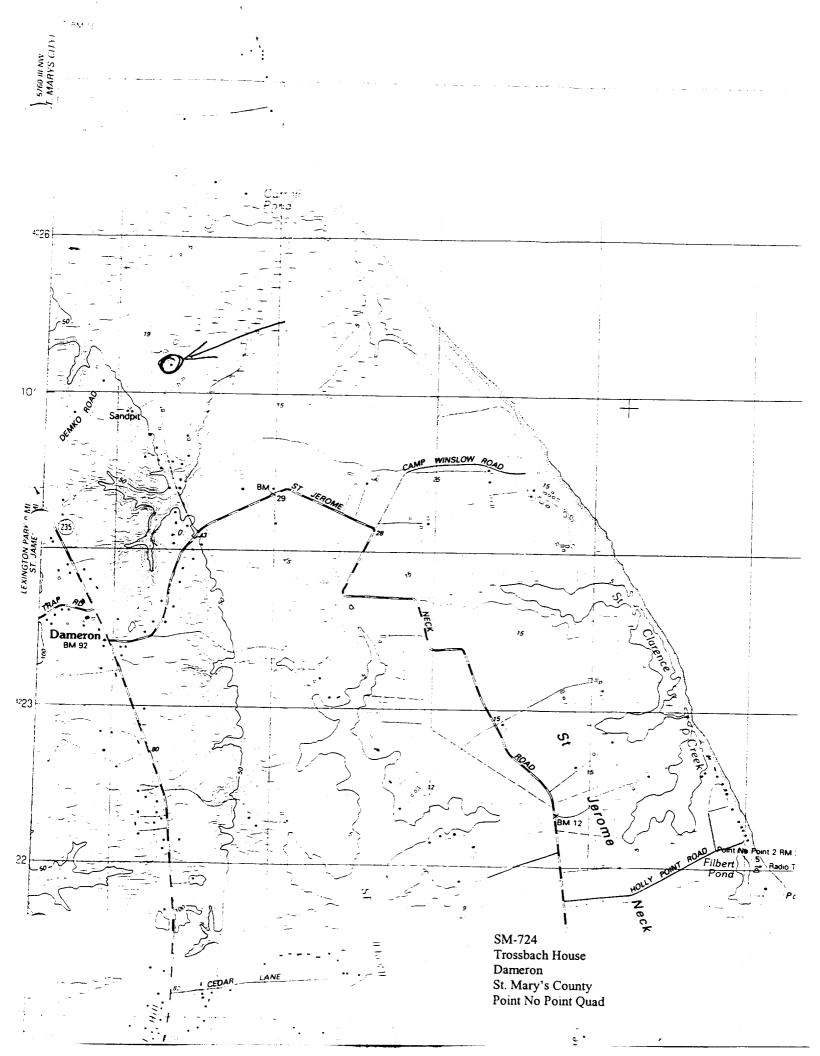
| name/title | Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyor | | | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------|--------------|--|--|
| organization | St. Mary's County Department of Planning & Zoning | date | August, 2000 | | |
| street & number | 22740 Washington Street | telephone | 301-475-4662 | | |
| city or town | Leonardtown | state | Maryland | | |

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust DHCD/DHCP 100 Community Place Crownsville, MD 21032-2023 410-514-7600





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